DYNAMITE®

SUGGESTED FOR MATURE READERS

Garth Ennis Darick Robertson

The BOYS™

THREE

OH MY GOODNESS, I--

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BE HERE--!

YOU'RE OUR NEWEST RECRUIT, WHY ON EARTH WOULDN'T I COME TO MEET YOU?

BECAUSE YOU'RE... YOU'RE THE HOMELANDER...!

JOHN. AND IT'S NOT STARLIGHT ALL THE TIME, IS IT?

ANNIE.

ANNIE JANUARY.

WELCOME TO THE SEVEN, ANNIE.

I... STILL CAN'T BELIEVE I'M ACTUALLY HERE...

Welcome

SECURITY

IT COMES AS NO SURPRISE TO ME, ANNIE. YOUR PERFORMANCE IN THE TRIALS WAS REMARKABLE.

WE ALLOW VERY, VERY FEW NEWCOMERS IN THE SEVEN; WE SIMPLY CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE THE RISK.

I KNOW. PLEASE DON'T THINK I'M NOT TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY, IT'S JUST--YOU KNOW.

YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE ME BLUSHING IN A MOMENT.

I'VE ADMIRED YOU FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER... YOUR INCREDIBLE KINDNESS, HOW ***WISE*** YOU ARE...

OH, I'M SORRY.

YOU KNOW, THIS IS AMAZING. I MEAN BACK IN DES MOINES, WITH THE YOUNG AMERICANS--WE DIDN'T HAVE ***ANYTHING*** LIKE THIS. THERE WERE TIMES WE HAD TO MEET AT MY AUNT'S APARTMENT.

DO YOU THINK YOU'LL MISS THEM?

I'M SURE I WILL.

IS THERE... SOMEONE SPECIAL?

DRUMMER BOY. FROM THE TEAM.

WE ACTUALLY MET AT CAPES FOR CHRIST, IN ONE OF THE JUNIOR MINISTRIES.

THAT'S GREAT.

AND-- YOU KNOW. WE DIDN'T WANT TO RUIN THINGS. WE'RE WAITING.

THAT'S ***GREAT.***

OH, THIS IS WHERE YOU--

YES. HAVE A SEAT. RELAX, YOU'VE EARNED IT.

I'M REALLY HERE.

I KNOW IT'S PROBABLY ONLY TEMPORARY... BUT...

WELL, I KNOW THAT'S WHAT WE SAID IN THE BEGINNING, BUT I'LL BE HONEST WITH YOU, ANNIE:

I CAN'T SEE THE LAMPLIGHTER *EVER* COMING BACK.

SO, I, I THOUGHT YOU'D HAVE ALL KINDS OF TROPHIES HERE, YOU KNOW, MEMORABILIA FROM ALL YOUR OLD BATTLES...

WE DID... IT JUST SEEMED TO SMACK OF TRIUMPHALISM, I WAS NEVER COMFORTABLE WITH THAT KIND OF THING.

SOME OF THE OTHERS DISAGREE, BUT I PREFER TO SEE WHAT WE DO AS SPREADING PEACE, NOT INFLICTING DEFEAT.

THAT'S SO TRUE.

THIS...YOU KNOW, IT'S THE VERY PINNACLE OF EVERYTHING I'VE EVER HOPED FOR. TO SERVE WITH THE *SEVEN*, I MEAN THERE'S JUST NO HIGHER A SUPER-PERSON CAN *GO*...

I TOLD YOU, ANNIE, YOU DESERVE IT. YOU'VE WORKED SO HARD.

THERE'S JUST ONE FINAL TEST FOR YOU TO PASS, AND I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO EXCEL AT THAT, TOO.

MM?

CHERRY part one

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AIRLINES

DUNBIER
MOTEL
HOURLY · WEEKLY · MONTHLY

LUNCH
LUNCH
LUNCH

LUNCH
LUNCH
NEED LUNCH
LUNCH

LUNCH
LUNCH
FUCKSAKE, HUGHIE, WHAT THE BLOODY HELL ARE YOU DOIN' *HERE?*

OH, OH, I FOUND IT IN THE GUIDEBOOK. IT SAID IT WAS CHEAP.
YEAH, I BET IT DID. YOU'RE IN THE FUCKIN' SOUTH BRONX, DID IT SAY ANY-THING ABOUT THAT?
COME ON, GET IN...
LIQUOR

I DUNNO, I QUITE LIKE IT. THERE'S ALL THESE AMAZIN' CHARACTERS STAYIN' THERE.

PLUS ONE, AS OF TODAY.

OKAY, MATE, OFF WE GO.

I DID READ ONE WEE THING ABOUT IT STILL BEIN' A, A TROUBLED NEIGHBOUR-HOOD...

YEAH, WHAT THAT MEANS IS THE BLOKE'S TOO MUCH OF A WANKER TO CALL IT A FUCKIN' PIGSTY.

WELL, FIRST FLOOD OF BLOOD-FLECKED SEMEN UNDER THE DOOR, DON'T COME CRYIN' TO ME.

TAKE THE WEST SIDE HIGHWAY, WOULD YOU, MATE? TA.

SO HOW WAS THE FLIGHT?

OH, IT WAS OKAY...

HE WON'T, UH...YOU KNOW...

WHAT, FUCK YOU? NOT UNLESS I TELL HIM TO.

NO, IT WAS ALL RIGHT. IMMIGRATION'S A RIGHT PAIN IN THE ARSE, THOUGH, I WAS STANDIN' THERE FOR BLOODY AGES.

OH, YEAH, THAT'S MY FAULT. SORRY, MATE.

HERE YOU GO, YOU'VE BEEN A U.S. CITIZEN FOR THE PAST WEEK.

PASSPOR

JINGS...!

OR JUST BUTCHER. MISTER BUTCHER MAKES ME SOUND LIKE ME DAD.

NO, WE ACTUALLY DO MOST OF OUR FLYIN' WITH THE AIR FORCE. BLOODY HANDY. ALTHOUGH YOU DO TEND TO MEET A LOT OF CHAINED-UP PAKISTANI LADS WITH BAGS OVER THEIR HEADS...

THAT'S *HORRIBLE...!*

YEAH, I SUPPOSE IT IS.

MISTER BUTCHER, I--I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I'M GONNA BE--

BILLY, HUGHIE.

BUT THAT'S THE WAY IT GOES, INNIT?

"YOU DON'T PLAY WITH MATCHES IF YOU DON'T WANT TO START ANY FIRES."

HUH

HUH

HUH

HOMELANDER...?

SUCK IT...!

WHAT-- WHAT'S THE *MATTER* WITH YOU--?

NOTHING. BEYOND THE FACT THAT I WANT A BLOWJOB AND-- INCREDIBLY--SEEM TO BE ENCOUNTERING COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES.

YOU GET ON YOUR KNEES AND YOU PUT IT IN YOUR MOUTH AND YOU *SUCK* THE GODDAMN THING...!

YOU CAN'T-- CAN'T CAN'T CAN'T--

YOU JUST *CAN'T MEAN IT...!*

HEY, WHAT'S UP?

BLACK NOIR AND A-TRAIN! OH, THANK THE LORD!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED, I THINK--I THINK SOMEONE'S CONTROLLING THE HOMELANDER!

HE'S, HE'S, I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE IT'S SOME KIND OF DUPLICATE OR AN ANDROID, LIKE WHEN INSANIAC INFILTRATED THE--

OH GOD

YOU'RE GOING TO FORCE YOURSELVES ON ME

CHRIST, NO. NOBODY'S FORCING ANYONE TO DO ANYTHING.

NO, IT'S ALL A QUESTION OF HOW BADLY YOU WANT TO JOIN THE SEVEN.

YOU MEAN I HAVE TO HAVE SEX WITH YOU TO JOIN THE TEAM?!

WELL, BILL CLINTON MIGHT ARGUE THE DEFINITION WITH YOU. BUT YES.

BUT--BUT YOU'RE THE *SEVEN*, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD! I MEAN THIS IS COMPLETELY DISGUSTING! IT'S A BETRAYAL OF EVERYTHING YOU STAND FOR!

YOU'RE EARTH'S MOST MIGHTY! YOU BRING JUSTICE TO ALL, YOU AVENGE THE INNOCENT! YOU'RE THE SEVEN!

YES, AND WE'D LIKE TO GET OUR DICKS SUCKED.

CAN'T STOP THE A-TRAIN--!

GO TO HELL.

WELL, IN THAT CASE, GOOD LUCK BACK IN THE CORN BELT.

WHAT?

WITH WHATSIZNAME.

AND, AH, WHAT-EVER THEY'RE CALLED.

MOTHER'S MILK, THE FRENCHMAN AND THE FEMALE--

WEE HUGHIE.

'LO, HUGHIE.

RIGHT FIRST TIME.

OH, HELLO THERE. IS IT M.M?

AH, PETIT HUGHIE! C'EST LE "AULD ALLIANCE" ONCE MORE, NON?

SORRY...?

EN SCOTLETERRE YOU HAVE A SAYING: LE "AULD ALLIANCE." THE ANCIENT FRIENDSHIP OF THE FRENCH AND THE SCOTS, WHEN BOTH OF OUR PEOPLES FOUGHT THE ENGLISH TO BE FREE AS FRIENDS TOGETHER (FOREVER AND NEVER TO PART).

AND SO IT IS, THAT ON LE JOUR DU FROMAGE IN FRANCE, KNOWN AS NEEPS DAY IN SCOTLAND, OUR NATIONS CELEBRATE THEIR SOVEREIGNTY-- FREE OF TYRANNY, INDEPENDENT OF ALL FOREIGN GOVERN-MENTS FOR *THREE THOUSAND YEARS...*

THIS YEAR, YOU AND I WILL CELEBRATE LE JOUR DU FROMAGE AND NEEPS DAY *TOGETHER*, PETIT HUGHIE...!

AYE, THAT SOUNDS BRILLIANT, PAL. REALLY GREAT.

OH, HELLO--

AH-AH!

DON'T BE DOIN' THAT, HUGHIE...

NOT A GOOD IDEA, MATE.

BELIEVE ME.

RIGHT THEN, YOU'VE ALL MET THE NEW LAD. TIME WE GOT DOWN TO BUSINESS.

UH, I'VE NOT ACTUALLY SAID--

FIRST THINGS FIRST, BOYS: THIS IS NOT GONNA BE LIKE LAST TIME AROUND.

WE'RE NOW OPERATIN' UNDER PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE. THAT MEANS DAKOTA BOB, AN' IF ANYONE'S GONNA STICK TO HIS GUNS IT'S THAT OLD BASTARD.

SO THAT LEAVES US A LOT LESS TO WORRY ABOUT. NO OLD BOLLOCKS ABOUT THE BUDGET, NO RULES OF ENGAGEMENT, NO LOOKIN' OVER OUR SHOULDERS BEFORE WE PUT SOME CUNT IN THE HOSPITAL. AN' NO BLOODY SUBCOMMITTEES.

FIRST THINGS FIRST: THIS PLACE IS *DISGUSTIN'*. WE GOTTA GET THE ASS-HOLES S'POSED TO BE FIXIN' US UP A OFFICE TO FINISH THE GOD-DAMN JOB.

AN' POLICE UP ALL THEIR SHIT, TOO. SERIOUSLY, HOW THE HELL WE EXPECTED TO WORK OUTTA HERE?

COME ON, THIS PLACE IS A NEW YORK CLASSIC! THE WANKERS DOWN-TOWN'D TURN GREEN IF THEY KNEW WE WERE HERE!

LOOK OUT THE WINDOW, CAN'T YOU JUST SEE OL' JIMMY DEAN HAVIN' A DANDER DOWN FIFTH AVENUE...?

OUTSIDE IT'S A CLASSIC. INSIDE IT'S A MUTHAFUCKIN' NIGHTMARE.

BROADWAY

ALL RIGHT, WELL I'LL GET ONTO MONKEY AN'--

PARDON, M'SIEU CHARCUTER: THE FEMALE WOULD LIKE TO ORDER PIZZA.

DIDN'T YOU HAVE ANY LUNCH?

BLOODY HELL, LUV, I'M ALWAYS TELLIN' YOU YOU'VE GOTTA TAKE BETTER CARE OF YOURSELF...!

ACTUALLY, IF WE'RE HAVIN' A WEE BREAK, I JUST NEED TO USE THE TOILET...

YOU CAN'T. I MEAN THERE IS ONE, BUT IT'S NOT BEEN PLUMBED IN YET.

SEE, THIS IS EXACTLY THE KINDA SHIT I'M TALKIN' ABOUT. *I'M* GONNA CALL MONKEY...

HAPPY?

WE GONNA DO THIS, WE GONNA DO IT RIGHT.

NO ANCHOVIES, FRENCHY.

AH, BONJOUR. C'EST RAY'S?

OH, IF WE'RE HAVIN' PIZZA, CAN YOU GET A FEW WEE MUSHROOMS ON IT?

YEAH, HELLO, TELL *MISTER KESSLER* IT'S M.M...

PAIN IN THE FUCKIN' ARSE...

EH?

MOTHER'S MILK.

AH, THAT'S NOT TRUE, IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM THE WHOLE THING WOULD FALL TO PIECES. I MEAN I'M IN CHARGE, BUT HE'S THE ONE WHO MAKES IT WORK.

MUSCLE.

EH?

YOU HAVE TO SEE IT TO BELIEVE IT.

WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER TWO? WHAT DO THEY DO?

RIGHT... LISTEN, I WANTED TO SAY TO YOU: YOU KEEP GOIN' ON AS IF I'M--

YEAH, I WAS HOPIN' YOU'D HAVE GOT SWEPT UP IN ALL THE EXCITEMENT AN' INTRIGUE AN' JUST GONE AHEAD AND SAID YES, BUT IT TURNS OUT THE OFFICE NEEDS A LICK OF PAINT AN' THAT.

BE DONE BY TOMORROW NIGHT.

NICE ONE.

HUGHIE, I JUST WANNA SAY TO YOU: SORRY 'BOUT YOUR GIRLFRIEND, MAN.

OH... THANK YOU...

I KNOW WE JUST MET, WE AIN'T HAD A CHANCE TO TALK.

BUT WE WILL.

UUAAAKKK

UUUUAAAAKKKK

YOU'RE *QUEEN MAEVE...*

MM-HMM.

YOU'RE THE *EMPRESS OF THE OTHER-WORLD...!*

OH, MY LADY, I NEVER THOUGHT I'D GET TO MEET YOU! EVER SINCE I WAS A LITTLE GIRL, I, I FOLLOWED YOUR ADVENTURES, I TRIED TO DO EVERYTHING JUST LIKE *YOU...*

I WORE MY *HAIR* LIKE YOU, I HAD A *COSTUME* JUST LIKE YOURS--I'M SORRY, I KNOW I'M GUSHING, BUT I JUST THINK YOU'RE THE GREATEST WOMAN WHO EVER LIVED! YOU'RE AN INSPIRATION TO ALL OF US *EVERY-WHERE!*

DARLING, HOW WONDERFUL. HOW LOVELY. HOW SUPER. HOW GRATIFYING, HOW MARVELOUS, HOW UTTERLY PEACHY-KEEN...

I--

FUCK OFF...

BIG GAME

SHOUT OUT

POPCLAW

WHACK JOB

GUNPOWDER

JETSTREAK

TEENAGE KIX.

DOGKNOTT

BLARNEY COCK

WE'RE GONNA FIRE A WARNIN' SHOT. NOTHIN' TOO HEAVY, NOTHIN' TOO PUBLIC.

JUST ENOUGH THAT THE SUPES KNOW WE'RE BACK IN BUSINESS.

THIS LOT ARE GONNA BE IT.

SOME OF YOU KNOW ALL THIS, BUT IT NEVER HURTS TO HEAR IT AGAIN. TEENAGE KIX AN' THE YOUNG AMERICANS ARE *THE* ADOLESCENT SUPERTEAMS OPERATIN' TODAY. ANY OTHERS JUST DO NOT SEEM TO LAST THE COURSE.

AS FAR AS IMAGE GOES, THEY COULDN'T BE MORE DIFFERENT. THE YOUNG AMERICANS ARE YOUR OLD-FASHIONED, NICE-AS-PIE TYPES, INCLUDIN' ONE OR TWO JUNIOR VERSIONS OF THE BIG BOYS. THEY'VE GOT TIES TO EVANGELIST OUTFITS, REPUBLICAN YOUTH GROUPS, ALL THAT.

TEENAGE KIX, ON THE OTHER HAND, LIKE TO THINK OF THEMSELVES AS A BIT MORE GEN-X: EDGY, WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS, BLAH-BLAH-BLAH. THIS IS THE CURRENT LINE-UP HERE.

COSTUMES CHANGE ALL THE TIME, BUT THERE'S GENERALLY A LOT OF SKIN ON SHOW--TATTOOS, PIERCINGS, WHAT HAVE YOU. SHOW UP AT PREMIERES WITH MODELS OR HEIRESSES ON THEIR ARMS, YOU KNOW THE SORT OF THING.

BAD BOYS OR NOT, A COUPLE OF 'EM *HAVE* MADE THE MOVE TO THE FIRST DIVISION. GROUPS LIKE THE SEVEN ARE ALWAYS LOOKIN' OUT FOR NEW RECRUITS.

YOUR MATE A-TRAIN, HUGHIE, HE STARTED OUT WITH THE KIX.

WHAT...?

THEY'RE WELL-KNOWN, BUT THEY'RE NOT SOME BELOVED INSTITUTION. EVEN A LOT OF THE OTHER SUPES, THE OLDER ONES, THINK THESE KIDS ARE A BIT MUCH NOW AN' AGAIN.

SO WE'RE NOT ABOUT TO WIPE OUR ARSES ON THE STARS AN' STRIPES OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?

AIN'T NOBODY GONNA START SCREAMIN' IF WE BREAK A COUPLE OF 'EM, HUH?

EX-ACTLY.

BIG GAME

POPCLAW

HEH.

YOU SEE A LOADA SUPES ALL TOGETHER LIKE THIS AN' YOU REALLY DO WONDER WHAT THE FUSS IS ABOUT. I MEAN PEOPLE LOVE 'EM, THEY CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF 'EM, BUT...HALF THE TIME, I CAN'T EVEN TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

CUNTS ALL LOOK THE SAME TO ME.

THEN AGAIN, *WE* KNOW WHAT THEY LOOK LIKE HAS ABSOLUTELY SOD ALL TO DO WITH ANYTHING. IT'S WHAT'S BEHIND ALL THAT SHIT THAT COUNTS. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THEY TAKE THE MASKS OFF.

AN' THAT'S WHERE WE COME IN, BOYS.

THAT'S OUR DEPARTMENT.

RIGHT! YOU ALL KNOW WHAT YOU'RE MEANT TO BE DOIN', SO GET STUCK IN. AN' DO YOUR HOME-WORK. REMEMBER THE SEVEN Ps.

HUGHIE-- YOU'RE WITH ME.

SEVEN WHAT?

AH, PETIT HUGHIE! *ECOUTE!*

"PROPER PREPARATION AND PLANNING..."

"PREVENT PISS-POOR PERFORMANCE."

LOOK AT 'EM, BOYS. TEENAGE KIX.

FUCK ME RIGID, ARE THEY IN FOR A SHOCK.

BIG GAME

SHOUT OUT

POPCLAW

WHACK JOB

GUNPOWDER

JETSTREAK

DOGKNOTT

BLARNEY COCK

NEXT: TEENAGE KIX RIGHT THROUGH THE NIGHT